United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region I
John F. Kennedy Federal Building
Boston, Massachusetts 02203

Date:	
Subject:	Bates Mill Removal Site Lewiston, Maine
From:	AmyJean Lussier, OSC, USEPA New England Region
To:	See Attached Distribution List
POLREP No.:	1
Site ID No.:	016B
Response Authority:	CERCLA
NPL Status:	Not listed
Start Date:	July 21, 1998
Completion Date:	N/A

I. Site Information

The Site, located at 65 - 177 Canal Street, Lewiston, Maine, consists of approximately 13.5 acres, the majority of which is occupied by 13 buildings with a total floor space of 1.2 million square feet. The Site,owned by Bates Manufacturing Company (1820-1850) and Bates Fabrics, Inc. (1850-1992), served as a textile manufacturer involved in the weaving and dying of cotton. Bates Fabrics, Inc., remains active with a smaller textile operation (in an area approximately 150 to 180 thousand square feet). In 1992, the City assumed ownership for back taxes. Twenty-five small businesses consisting of approximately 600 people occupy other spaces within the Mill. The rest of the Mill is either empty or being revitalized for redevelopment.

The brick constructed Mill was constructed in 1850 and is multi-storied. Throughout the years the Mill was added on to, renovated, and rebuilt numerous times.

The Site is surrounded by canals and is within 1/4 mile of the Androscoggin River. Numerous waterways and tunnels flow through the complex and an abandoned railroad line goes through the building. The topography of the area is generally flat.

The Site is bounded by:

- North - Main Street
- South - Chestnut Street
- East - Canal Street
- West - Lincoln Street

The Site is located in downtown Lewiston within a highly urbanized area. EPA recently awarded the City a Brownfields Pilot Grant of $200,000 to study the Mill and evaluate a reuse and redevelopment plan.

In 1996, Summit Environmental consultants, Inc. (SEC), under contract with the City of Lewiston, performed a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (Phase I ESA) at the Mill. During this assessment, SEC collected polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) samples and performed an asbestos survey. Results of the Phase I ESA indicated the presence of chrysotile asbestos primarily in pipe insulation (approximately 8,700 linear feet). The majority of the asbestos containing materials (ACM) were in extremely poor condition with broken, crumbling surfaces. Additionally, SEC observed numerous labeled and unlabeled containers (five to 55-gallon in size)of chemicals and petroleum products and large quantities of fluorescent light ballasts suspected of containing PCBs.

On 10 and 11 March 1998, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Roy F. Weston Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) personnel conducted a Removal Program Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation (PA/SI) at the site. This PA/SI was prompted by a referral from the U.S. EPA Brownfields Team.

The following are the key findings:

- Approximately 200 labeled and unlabeled drums (30 - 55 gal. capacity) abandoned and inadequately staged due to apparent incompatible solutions. Some drums appeared to be in very deteriorated conditions and some where leaking their liquid contents. Also, some drums contained solid material which included suspected ACM in the form of piping debris.

- Different areas of the site have large amounts of suspected friable ACM. Most of the ACM is in the form of piping insulation (used, unused and loose debris).

- Several aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) containing unknown materials. This includes two 20,000 gal. (approx.) tanks, one 10,000 gal. (approx.) tank and one 6,000 gal. (approx.) tank.

- Six off-line transformers suspected of containing PCB-contaminated oil.

START personnel collected 20 samples from drums, tanks, and the floor and submitted them to U.S. EPA New England Regional Laboratory (NERL) for analysis. Laboratory results concluded that the following substances were found present in the samples taken: 1,3,5 trimethylbenzene, acetone, toluene, fluorene, 2-methylnaphthalene, naphthalene, and fluorene. Laboratory results for pH indicated that many caustics are found at the Site.

Label information obtained from the drums indicate the following contents: USCOSET-AM-1 (containing formaldehyde), DK-80 (potentially flammable), sodium nitrate, concentrated sodium hydrosulfite, germicides, dyes, 85% formic acid, ammonium sulfate, ammonium bifluoride, sodium hexameta-sulfate, miscellaneous oil and greases, transformer oil, and adhesive. Warning labels on some of the drums indicated their hazardous nature (e.g., potentially flammable, corrosive, may ignite if allowed to become damp, etc).

II. Current Actions to Date

June 24, 1998

The Action Memorandum was signed by Patricia L. Meaney, Director of the Office of Site Remediation & Restoration, authorizing a $459,000 project ceiling of which approximately $250,000 is for the cleanup contractor (OHM).

July 9, 1998

EPA OSC AmyJean Lussier, Tricia Coppolino of START, Jeff Bodi and Gary Benham, from OHM, met on site and discussed the removal action. Allan Turgeon of the Bates Mill

July 13, 1998

Gary Benham sent out a bid solicitation for the transportation and disposal of approximately 500 PCB containing lamp ballast.

III. Costs

Cost Information

	Ceiling	Estimated Expenditure	Balance
ERCS:	$ ~~250,000~~* 500,000	$ 1,000	$ 199,000
START:	~~80~~,000 65	2,000	48,000
Contingency	~~64~~,000 113	0	64,000
EPA:	75,000	2,000	73,000
TOTAL:	**$ 459,000**	**$ 5,000**	**$ 490,000**

* EPA obligated $200,000 to OHM.

IV. Next Steps

1. Continue with the staging and sampling of drums.

Case pending.